



California Public Utilities Commission

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PRESS RELEASE

Docket #: A.14-04-014

CPUC TAKES STEPS TO ENCOURAGE EXPANSION OF ELECTRIC VEHICLES

SAN FRANCISCO, December 18, 2014 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today took further steps to encourage the expansion of electric vehicle infrastructure and the widespread deployment and use of plug-in electric vehicles by lifting the prohibition against utility ownership of electric vehicle charging infrastructure and replacing it with a case-specific approach.

Today's decision sets aside the requirement that the utilities demonstrate a "market failure" or "underserved market" as part of any request for authority to own plug-in electric vehicle charging infrastructure. This change is designed to allow for consideration of utility requests on a case-specific basis.

"As Californians increasingly adopt plug-in electric vehicles, the electric utilities that the CPUC regulates will play a crucial role in the transportation sector as procurers, deliverers, and suppliers of transportation fuel - in this case electricity," said CPUC Commissioner Carla J. Peterman, the Commissioner assigned to the proceeding. "Our decision today clarifies the elements we will examine, at a minimum, in determining whether utility entrance into a competitive market with non-utility participants should be allowed."

Review of each utility application to own electric vehicle charging infrastructure will include 1) The nature of the proposed utility program and its elements, for example, whether the utility proposes to own or provide charging infrastructure, billing services, metering, or customer information and education; 2) Examination of the degree to which the market that the utility program would enter is competitive, and in what level of concentration; 3) Identification of potential unfair utility



advantages, if any; and 4) If the potential for the utility to unfairly compete is identified, the CPUC will determine if rules, conditions, or regulatory protections are needed to effectively mitigate the anticompetitive impacts or unfair advantages held by the utility.

The proposal voted on is available at

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M143/K565/143565877.PDF>.

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